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09/973,349	10/09/2001	Douglas Charles Pratt	2001P07594 US01	5262

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EXAMINER
GYORFI, THOMAS A

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/973,349	PRATT, DOUGLAS CHARLES
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tom Gyorfi	2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 September 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-20 remain for examination. The correspondence filed 9/5/06 amended

claims 1, 15-17, and 19.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

4.   Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Brown (U.S. Patent 6,430,541) in view of Povilus (U.S. Patent 5,740,425).

Referring to Claim 1:

        Brown discloses a method for determining identifier codes for an object

associated with a plurality of identifier codes by a corresponding plurality of entities,

comprising the activities of:

        receiving a first message including at least a first identifier code identifying an

object, said first identifier code being associated with a first entity (col. 4, lines 25-45);

        extracting said first identifier code from said received first message (col. 4, lines

45-60);

accumulating, in a first database, identifier code mapping information from

identifier codes derived from data representing messages supporting commercial

transactions and sent between entities desiring to effect a commercial transaction (col.

5, lines 44-50);

generating a plurality of messages incorporating said extracted first identifier

code, said plurality of messages being for initiating a search of a plurality of different

remote identifier code databases including said first database, said databases linking

said first identifier code associated with said first entity to corresponding different

identifier codes, said different identifier code being associated with entities different to

said first entity (col. 6, lines 46-67); and

receiving said different identifier codes corresponding to said first identifier code

in response to communicating said plurality of messages (col. 7, lines 1-13; col. 8, lines

10-27).

Although Brown discloses the use of universal identifiers, it appears that the

universal identifiers used in the "generating a plurality of messages" step pertains more

toward identifying the particular retailer, rather than the object. However, Povilus

discloses that one could accumulate in a database identifiers pertaining to objects from

one or more additional entities in such a way that a unique universal identifier unused

by other commercial entities [the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-65] can be mapped to each of the

other identifiers from other electronic catalogs/databases (col. 3, lines 20-30 and 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have identifiers in the Brown invention identify objects described by the

various retailers in that system. The motivation for doing so would be to provide a user-friendly manner to search for specific products regardless of how a particular retailer might describe them in their electronic catalog [i.e. database] (Povilus, col. 2, 45-50).

Referring to Claim 15:

Brown discloses a method for determining a specific identifier code for an object associated with a plurality of identifier codes by a corresponding plurality of entities, comprising the activities of:

receiving a first message including at least a first identifier code identifying an object, said first identifier code being associated with a first entity (col. 4, lines 25-45);

deriving said first identifier code from said received first message (col. 4, 45-60);

accumulating, in a first database, object identifier code mapping information from identifier codes derived from data representing messages supporting commercial transactions and sent between entities desiring to effect a commercial transaction (col. 5, lines 44-50);

generating a second message incorporating said derived first identifier code, said second message being for initiating a search of said first database mapping said first identifier code associated with said first entity to a corresponding second identifier code identifying said object and said second message incorporates data representing rules determining conduct of said search of said identifier code database, said second identifier code being associated with a second entity different to said first entity (col. 6, lines 46-67);

receiving said second identifier code corresponding to said first identifier code in response to communicating said second message (col. 7, lines 1-13; col. 8, 10-27).

Although Brown discloses the use of universal identifiers, it appears that the universal identifiers used in the "generating a plurality of messages" step pertains more toward identifying the particular retailer, rather than the object. However, Povilus discloses that one could accumulate in a database identifiers pertaining to objects from one or more additional entities in such a way that a unique universal identifier unused by other commercial entities [the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-65] can be mapped to each of the other identifiers from other electronic catalogs/databases (col. 3, lines 20-30 and 35-55). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have identifiers in the Brown invention identify objects described by the various retailers in that system. The motivation for doing so would be to provide a user-friendly manner to search for specific products regardless of how a particular retailer might describe them in their electronic catalog [i.e. database] (Povilus, col. 2, 45-50).

Referring to Claim 16:

Brown discloses a method for determining identifier codes for an object associated with a plurality of identifier codes by a corresponding plurality of entities, comprising the activities of:

receiving a first message including at least a first identifier code identifying an object, said first identifier code being associated with a first entity (col. 4, lines 25-45);

deriving said first identifier code from said received first message (col. 4, 45-60);

accumulating, in a first database, object identifier code mapping information from

identifier codes derived from data representing messages supporting commercial

transactions and sent between entities desiring to effect a commercial transaction (col.

5, lines 44-50);

generating a plurality of messages incorporating said derived first identifier code,

said plurality of messages being for initiating a search of said first database and a

remote identifier code database, said databases linking said first identifier code

associated with said first entity to corresponding different identifier codes identifying

said object, said different identifier code being associated with entities different to said

first entity (col. 6, lines 46-67);

receiving said different identifier codes corresponding to said first identifier code

in response to communicating said second message (col. 7, lines 1-13; col. 8, 10-27);

and updating said remote identifier code databases to incorporate corresponding

received identifier codes identifying said object (Ibid).

Although Brown discloses the use of universal identifiers, it appears that the

universal identifiers used in the "generating a plurality of messages" step pertains more

toward identifying the particular retailer, rather than the object. However, Povilus

discloses that one could accumulate in a database identifiers pertaining to objects from

one or more additional entities in such a way that a unique universal identifier unused

by other commercial entities [the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-65] can be mapped to each of the

other identifiers from other electronic catalogs/databases (col. 3, lines 20-30 and 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have identifiers in the Brown invention identify objects described by the

various retailers in that system. The motivation for doing so would be to provide a user-

friendly manner to search for specific products regardless of how a particular retailer

might describe them in their electronic catalog [i.e. database] (Povilus, col. 2, 45-50).

Referring to Claim 17:

Brown discloses a method for providing identifier codes for an object associated

with a plurality of identifier codes by a corresponding plurality of entities, comprising the

activities of:

receiving from a remote source a first message including at least a first identifier

code identifying an object, said first identifier code being associated with a first entity

and said first message requesting determination of a specific identifier code for said

object (col. 4, lines 25-45);

deriving said first identifier code from said received first message (col. 4, 45-60);

accumulating, in a first database, object identifier code mapping information from

identifier codes derived from data representing messages supporting commercial

transactions and sent between entities desiring to effect a commercial transaction (col.

5, lines 44-50);

initiating a search of a plurality of different identifier code databases including

said first database, said databases linking said first identifier code associated with said

first entity to corresponding different identifier codes identifying said object, said

different identifier codes being associated with entities different to said first entity using

said extracted first identifier code (col. 6, lines 46-67);

receiving said different identifier codes corresponding to said first identifier code

in response to said initiated search of said plurality of different identifier code databases

(col. 7, lines 1-13; col. 8, lines 10-27); and

providing said different identifier codes to said remote source (Ibid).

Although Brown discloses the use of universal identifiers, it appears that the

universal identifiers used in the "generating a plurality of messages" step pertains more

toward identifying the particular retailer, rather than the object. However, Povilus

discloses that one could accumulate in a database identifiers pertaining to objects from

one or more additional entities in such a way that a unique universal identifier unused

by other commercial entities [the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-65] can be mapped to each of the

other identifiers from other electronic catalogs/databases (col. 3, lines 20-30 and 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have identifiers in the Brown invention identify objects described by the

various retailers in that system. The motivation for doing so would be to provide a user-

friendly manner to search for specific products regardless of how a particular retailer

might describe them in their electronic catalog [i.e. database] (Povilus, col. 2, 45-50).

Referring to Claim 19:

Brown discloses a system for identifier codes for an object associated with a

plurality of identifier codes, comprising:

a communication processor for bidirectionally communicating with applications

(col. 3, lines 15-25);

a plurality of different remote identifier code databases including a first database

incorporating object identifier code mapping information accumulated from identifier

codes derived from message data (elements 70a-70n of Figure 2);

a first application for,

initiating a search of said plurality of different remote databases

to translate a first identifier code identifying an object associated with a first entity and

corresponding different identifier codes identifying said object in said commercial

transaction, said different identifier codes being associated with entities different to said

first entity, in response to receiving a message including a plurality of corresponding

identifier codes identifying said object and provided by remote applications (col. 6, lines

46-67), and for

updating at least one of said plurality of different databases to incorporate

corresponding different identifier codes identifying said object (col. 7, lines 1-13;

col. 8, lines 10-27); and

providing said different identifier codes corresponding to said first identifier

code in response to said initiated search of said plurality of different identifier

code databases via said communication processor (Ibid).

Although Brown discloses the use of universal identifiers, it appears that the

universal identifiers used in the "generating a plurality of messages" step pertains more

toward identifying the particular retailer, rather than the object. However, Povilus

discloses that one could accumulate in a database identifiers pertaining to objects from

one or more additional entities in such a way that a unique universal identifier unused

by other commercial entities [the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-65] can be mapped to each of the

other identifiers from other electronic catalogs/databases (col. 3, lines 20-30 and 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have identifiers in the Brown invention identify objects described by the

various retailers in that system. The motivation for doing so would be to provide a user-

friendly manner to search for specific products regardless of how a particular retailer

might describe them in their electronic catalog [i.e. database] (Povilus, col. 2, 45-50).

Referring to Claim 2:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown and Povilus

further disclose wherein messages supporting commercial transactions are messages

effecting commercial transactions including purchase or sale of goods (Brown, col. 10,

lines 10-65), and including the activity of updating said plurality of databases to

incorporate said different identifier codes identifying said object (Povilus, col. 6, 10-25).

Referring to Claim 3:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses said mapping information supports translation of an identifier code within a

message as the message passes through an interface processor (col. 4, lines 45-60).

Referring to Claim 4:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitation of Claim 3 above. Brown and Povilus

further disclose the activity of communicating said plurality of messages to applications

useable for initiating a search of said plurality of different remote identifier code

databases (Brown, col. 6, lines 50-67), said mapping information supports the

translation of an identifier code within a message as the message passes through an

interface processor without any action affecting the translation by either a sending

system or receiving system (Povilus, col. 21, lines 10-30).

Referring to Claims 5 and 20:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claims 1 and 19 above. Brown

further discloses, wherein a message of said plurality of messages initiates a prioritized

search of said a database (col. 4, lines 50-55) and

an object comprises at least one of, (i) an article of manufacture, (ii) a

service and (iii) a non-manufactured item (examples on col. 5, lines 55-65) and

an entity comprises at least one of, (a) an object retailer, (b) an object

wholesaler, (c) an object distributor, (d) an object manufacturer, (e) an object

servicing enterprise and (f) an object seller (col. 5, lines 45-50).

Referring to Claim 6:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 5 above. Povilus further

discloses, wherein said prioritized search of said database searches first for a

purchaser product identifier code identifying said object and subsequently for a

manufacturer product identifier code identifying said object (col. 12, lines 35-55).

Referring to Claim 7:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses, wherein said extracting activity comprises

deriving said first identifier code and a corresponding third identifier code

identifying said object from said received first message (col. 4, lines 25-45), and

said generating step generates a plurality of messages incorporating said derived

first and third identifier codes. (Ibid, and col. 6, lines 45-67).

Referring to Claim 8:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 7 above. Povilus further

discloses, wherein said first identifier code comprises a purchaser product identifier

code (Povilus, col. 8, lines 10-20) and said third identifier code comprises a

manufacturer product identifier code (Povilus, col. 6, lines 48-65) and a message of said

plurality of messages initiates a prioritized search of a database involving searching first

for said purchaser product identifier code and subsequently for a manufacturer product

identifier code (col. 12, lines 35-55).

Referring to Claim 9:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Povilus further

discloses wherein said mapping information supports translation of an identifier code

within a message as the message passes through an interface processor without any

action affecting the translation by either a sending system (col. 21, lines 10-30).

Referring to Claim 10:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses wherein messages supporting commercial transactions are messages

effecting transactions including purchase or sale of goods (col. 10, lines 10-65).

Referring to Claim 11:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses, including the activity of communicating said plurality of messages to

applications for accessing said databases using at least two of, (a) Hypertext Transfer

Protocol (HTTP), (b) Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) and (c) XML (Extensible

Markup Language) (col. 4, lines 5-20).

Referring to Claim 12:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses, wherein said method comprises an identifier code mapping application and

said identifier code mapping application and one of said plurality of different remote

identifier code databases are co-located on the same processor, said processor

comprising one of (a) a server, (b) a PC (c) a wireless device, (d) a mainframe computer

and (e) another networked processing device (col. 6, lines 45-67; Figure 2).

Referring to Claim 13:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown and Povilus

further disclose, wherein messages supporting commercial transactions are messages

effecting commercial transactions including purchase or sale of goods (Brown, col. 10,

lines 10-65) and said mapping information supports translation of an identifier code

within a message as the message passes through an interface processor without any

action affecting the translation by either a sending system or receiving system (Povilus,

col. 21, lines 10-30) and at least one of said first and said different identifier codes

comprise one of (a) a Universal Product Code and (b) a code associated with a bar

code (the SKU, col. 6, lines 48-60).

Referring to Claim 14:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 1 above. Brown further

discloses, wherein said first message is received from an application initiating a

transaction (element 48 of Figure 2), and including the activity of forwarding a

composite message to a destination application in support of said transaction, said

composite message being created including information derived from said first message

and including one of said different identifier codes (col. 6, lines 45-67).

Referring to Claim 18:

Brown and Povilus disclose the limitations of Claim 17 above. Brown further

discloses the activity of generating a record of said search and provision of said

different identifier codes for use in at least one of, (a) billing, and (b) creating a

transaction record (col. 7, lines 15-30).

Conclusion

5.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Tom Gyorfi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3849.

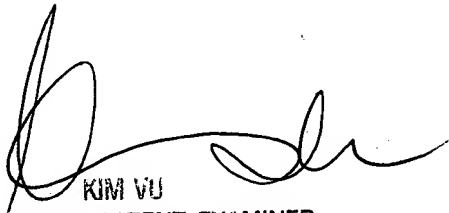The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TAG
4/30/07

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